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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Akihiro TAKAHASHI

Group Art Unit : 2621

Appl. No. : 10/814,227

Examiner : J.M. Roberts

Filed : April 1, 2004

Confirmation No. : 5377

For : ELECTRONIC ENDOSCOPE SYSTEM



SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement that was previously filed on July 7, 2004, Applicant hereby brings to the attention of the Examiner a Japanese Office Action (Notice of Reason for Rejection) dated May 18, 2009 with respect to patent family member Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-101705, in which the following documents were cited:

- (1) JP 9-9109 A, which is submitted along with an English language Abstract thereof, and which is a patent family member of U.S. Patent No. 5,902,230;
- (2) JP 3-198478 A, which is submitted along with an English language Abstract;
- (3) JP 10-4516 A, which is submitted along with an English language Abstract thereof;
- (4) JP 2001-286439 A, which is submitted along with an English language Abstract thereof, and which is a patent family member of U.S. Patent No. 6,712,760 B2;

- (5) JP 2000-245694 A, which is submitted along with an English language Abstract thereof; and
- (6) JP 6-335450 A, which is submitted along with an English language Abstract thereof;

The relevance of these documents, as ascertained with respect to the Japanese claims by the Japanese Examiner, is set forth in the Japanese Office Action.

Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii), copies of the U.S. patents are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

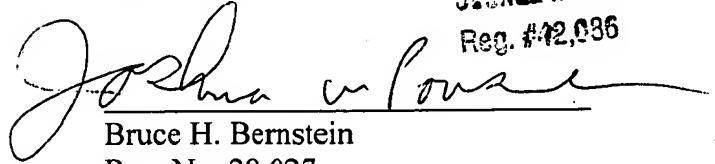
Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign documents, including the noted English language Abstracts, are attached hereto, and all of the documents are listed on an attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of the Japanese Office Action, including an English language translation thereof, is also attached hereto. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form, and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicant with the next official communication in the present application.

Since this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted within 3 months of the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) on July 20, 2009. Thus, no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,
Akihiro TAKAHASHI

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July 24, 2009
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